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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): UNI-
VERSITY OF VIRGINIA PATENT FOUNDATION
[US/US]; 1224 West Main Street, Suite 1-110, Char-
lottesville, VA 22903 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): LANNI-
GAN-MACARA, Deborah, A. [CA/US]; 1700 Jefferson
Park Avenue, Charlottesville, VA 22903 (US). HEN-
RICH, Lorin, M. [US/US]; 417A Valley Road Extended,
Charlottesville, VA 22908 (US). SMITH, Jeffrey, A.
[US/US]; 815 Stillwater Lane, Earlysville, VA 22936
(US).

(74) Agent: BREEN, John, P.; University of Virginia Patent
Foundation, 1224 West Main Street, Suite 1-110, Char-
lottesville, VA 22903 (US).

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(54) Title: ERK7 AND ERK8, NOVEL DIAGNOSTIC MARKERS FOR CANCER

(57) Abstract: The present invention is directed in part to the discovery of a novel signal transduction pathway that regulates estrogen responsiveness. Human extracellular signal-regulated kinase 8 (ERK8) has been discovered by applicants to preferentially enhance the destruction of ER α , and loss of ERK8 is correlated with breast cancer progression. Thus monitoring the expression of ERK8 can be used as a diagnostic and therapeutic indicator of cancer and cancer progression.

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